

July 26,1949

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Dept. of Genetics University of Wisconsin Madison. Wisc.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I received the cultures, for which I thank you, but there was an omission of SW-87, which I should like. Adams suggested that the situation may be similar to that reported by Wooley, a protective action of some polysaccharide, rather than a specific action of the sugar and that this might be tested by growing SW-87 which has been freed of phage in glucose and then inoculate it and SP-7 into galactose broth and see whether lysis occurs. If it does lyse, than it would indicate that the formation of some intermediate was necessary and we might try to extract it, if it doesn't lyse then galactose could well be some anticofactor substance. Some single burst experiments are in order with SW-13 and SP-7 in the various sugars.

The project on stretomycin is proceeding badly. The stocks when given to me were in terrible shape and it took me a few days to rejuvinate them. On testing they still contained the normal set of markers but their streptomycin character was a general mess, so know I am proceeding to obtain new ones. In order not to waste time I made a few crosses while testing the stocks, and followed through, if only to refamiliarize myself with the procedures. They came up very nicely and it is unfortunate that they were in such condition. For me it is always exciting to do crossses that come up.

I've not forgotten the linkage of B_1 to BM and have added B_1 to all of the media. EMS is the medium of choice as it cuts down on contamination which from what I've seen runs rather rampant.

The Columbia propaganda I'm sure you know what to do with, but I8d appreciate it if you would save the Genetics.

Its been very hot and humid here and I've been taking salt tablets regularly to keep from passing out. If I remember correctly it is hot in Wisconsin but not as humid, and you know how the saying goes, if this be any succor to you.

With best regards to yourself and Mrs. Lederberg.

Sincerely,

Norton Zinder